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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Beier, M.

Application Serial No.: To Be Assigned

Filed: May 18, 2001

For: **DERIVATIZATION OF SUPPORT  
SURFACES**

Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned

6/4  
D.G.

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Attorney's Docket No.:

03528.0131.PCUS00

12-4-01

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants are submitting herewith a Preliminary Amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the amendments prior to considering the application.

THE AMENDMENT

In the Specification:

*A*  
Page 1, line 2, before "The present invention" insert - This application is a National Stage of International Application PCT/DE99/03692, filed November 17, 1999; which claims the priority of DE 198 53 242.3 filed November 18, 1998--.

In the Claims

*SUB  
NO. B1*  
3. (Amended) The method according to claim [1 or] 2, wherein the functional group is an amine, hydroxyl, phosphate, carboxyl, carbonyl, thiol or amide group.

4. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 1 to 3] claim 2, wherein the activating reagent is acryloylchloride, 4-nitrophenylchloroformate, carbonyl diimidazole, phenyl chloroformate, phosgene, disphosgene, triphosgene, EDC(N-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-N'-ethyl-carbodiimide hydro-